

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 122
Examiner : W. Teoli
Applicants : Mahendra I. Amin and Jay A. Campbell
Serial No. : 898,676
Filed : 21 August 1986
For : CRYSTALLINE CEPHALOSPORIN HYDROHALIDE SALTS
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

Sir:

I, Jay A. Campbell, being duly warned that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both (28 USC 1001) and may jeopardize the validity of the above-captioned application or any patent issuing thereon, state and declare that:

All statements herein made of my own knowledge are true and all statements herein made on information and belief are believed to be true.

I am one of the named co-inventors in the above-identified application.

I am a PhD level chemical engineer having received my PhD degree from the University of Illinois in 1981. I have worked for The Upjohn Company (hereinafter, Upjohn) since 1981; I have been assigned to work in Process Research and Development for Upjohn since 1981.

Among my assignments are chemical laboratory studies to find more economical, safer and easier ways to handle relatively new chemical compounds of interest to Upjohn for possible large production scale manufacture and commercialization.

Pertinent to the hereinabove identified patent application, I was assigned the process research task of trying to find a better, easier handling form of ceftiofur, a cephalosporin antibiotic compound that Upjohn was interested in possibly marketing.

The compound ceftiofur itself, syn-7-[2-(2-amino-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetamido]-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid and its cationic metal and amine salts are amorphous solids which amorphous materials are difficult to

purify, and are typically less stable than crystalline materials, and are less desirable to work with relative to crystalline materials in the plant manufacturing thereof for pharmaceutical formulations containing such a compound.

My initial task or problem relating to this ceftiofur synthesis was to find a commercially adaptable process to make a pure form of ceftiofur sodium salt. No method of purification of either the ceftiofur sodium salt or the ceftiofur free base we tried resulted in acceptable purity of a final ceftiofur material. Among those methods we tried were (1) reprecipitations of the ceftiofur sodium salt, (2) resin and other adsorbent chromatographies, (3) reprecipitation of the ceftiofur free base, (4) various changes in reaction conditions, (5) extractions and leachings, and (6) purification of the protected ceftiofur.

We then looked for a crystalline intermediate or crystalline form of ceftiofur sodium which could be purified by crystallization. In the course of our development of the detritylation part of the overall ceftiofur compound synthesis with HCl we formed a crystalline solid, later confirmed to be ceftiofur HCl. We then set about to optimize this detritylation and crystallization.

The accepted, published methods of detritylating cephalosporins use formic acid or trifluoroacetic acid. Those detritylation acids are not as harsh as mineral acids. Hydrochloric acid and hydrobromic acid are known to be harsher and cause degradation of the cephalosporin. In spite of this, in our work with ceftiofur, we observed very clean detritylation in vials for high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) injection samples which had been diluted with acetonitrile, water and HCl. This hydrochloric acid detritylation of ceftiofur has the advantages of involving better known and less hazardous reagents (in high volume plant use), easier workup and easier formation of the HCl salt. However, when we did this hydrochloric acid detritylation of ceftiofur to form the ceftiofur hydrochloride, we unexpectedly obtained our ceftiofur hydrochloride salt product as a crystalline material upon cooling of the mixture. This material was not substantially degraded, and it was found upon analysis that the crystalline ceftiofur hydrochloride salt retained essentially all of its syn-stereo configuration.

We also found that this crystalline ceftiofur hydrochloride salt was of very high purity and was, in fact, a more pure form of ceftiofur than we (at Upjohn) had been able to obtain previously. In fact, the hydrochloride salt we obtained was over 10% purer than our best sample of sodium salt. As a result of this discovery, Upjohn management set about to consider and to test using the ceftiofur hydrochloride as a possible new form or source of ceftiofur as a bulk drug for formulating into appropriate pharmaceutical dosage unit forms, instead of further converting it into the previously known sodium ceftiofur salt.

From our work with different cephalosporin intermediates, we were surprised that our crystalline ceftiofur hydrochloride salt was so impurity-free. For example, attached hereto are copies of my laboratory notebook page 18774-JAC-45 noting my efforts to make and crystallize the hydrochloride salt of the corresponding 3-(thienylcarbonylthiomethyl) compound, namely 7-[2-(2-amino-1,3-thiazol-4-yl)-2-(methoxyimino)acetamido]-3-[2-(2-thien-2-ylcarbonyl)thiomethyl]-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid, by processing the corresponding free base in the same way we would process the N-tritylceftiofur compound.

The 3-(thienylcarbonylthiomethyl) ... free base was dissolved with dilute hydrogen chloride in about 35:65 V/V aqueous acetone, then distilled to remove acetone with concurrent crystallization of the salt. The resulting product was crystalline but over two percent of the anti-isomer was formed compared to less than one percent in the corresponding ceftiofur process. The crystals were much smaller which made the crystal isolation slower.

In another experiment (see copy of my laboratory notebook page 18774-JAC-47, attached hereto), we treated cefotaxime (identical to ceftiofur except for the 3-side chain) with warm aqueous acetone and hydrogen chloride. The resulting product contained less than 50 percent of the desired cefotaxime hydrochloride salt.

To our knowledge, to date, there are no other crystalline forms of ceftiofur, including any of the specific compounds referred to in the Labeeuw et al. U.S. patent No. 4,464,367. This crystalline ceftiofur hydrochloride salt is believed to be a unique form of ceftiofur.

In conclusion, when compared to other available derivatives of ceftiofur,

the hydrochloride salt represents a surprisingly and unexpectedly useful material. Its stable, solid crystalline form makes it easier to purify, handle, store, process and formulate and its higher purity makes it more suitable for formulating into appropriate pharmaceutical dosage unit forms.



Jay A. Campbell

Date: October 28, 1987

Attachments:

- Laboratory notebook pages 18774-JAC1-45, 47

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47
HCl salt of cefotaxime see 18851-60M-45

Background: 10M made HCl salt from Na salt using pro.
very similar to JAC-45
- slow to crystallize
- cake "disappeared" (dissolved on addition of H₂O)
- HPLC of solids was low in cefotaxime (decomposed?)
~50% yield
- solids looked crystalline
- heavy ppt in M.L.

crystals in M.L. were large - filtered nicely - large cake ~ 4g?

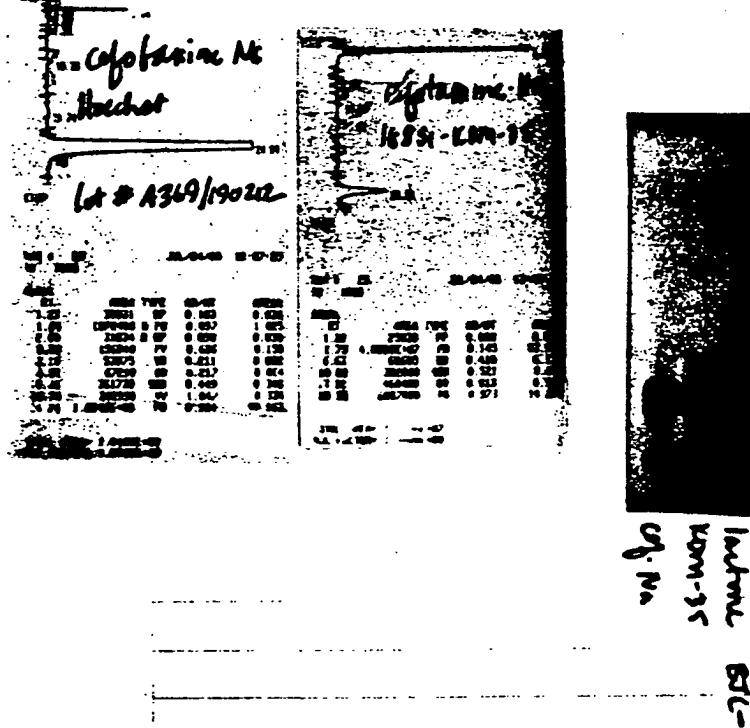
2x 4 ml 10% acetone in H₂O mixes

2x 10 ml H₂O mixes - shrinking of cake (dissolution? yes
m.l. dried to solids)

cake went from granular looking to mud!
dry. O.V. @ 60°C scoured up on drying

JAC-47 .67 g

see TCC p.45



sample given to Mike Dunn
impurity was the as lactone